[10th March 1955

SRI M. DHARMALINGAM :—" May I know from the Hon. the Minister for Finance whether Vanniyakulakshatriyas belonging to the criminal tribes live in any other districts than the districts mentioned also and whether they are entitled to this concession."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" My information is that they do not live in any other districts."

Leprosy Research Institute in the State

* 1222 Q.—SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN (on behalf of Sri K. Aranganathan): Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state whether any leprosy research centre has been opened in the State?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Yes, Sir, a Central Leprosy Teaching and Research Institute has been established at Chingleput by the Government of India with effect from 5th January 1955."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" In view of the fact that leprosy is particularly fond of the people of South Arcot, will the Government be pleased to open an additional centre in the South Arcot?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" We have got a very big leprosy sanatorium at Tirumani near Chingleput and it is in fact the biggest institution in the whole of India. It is best suited for being developed into a research and teaching institution."

Fall in price of tapioca

* 1223 Q.—SRI K. KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any report from the concerned district officers or any representations from the public regarding the abnormal fall during recent months in the price of tapioca and tapioca products in the State, particularly in Malabar and Salem districts;

(b) whether the Government have made any enquiries into the causes of such fall; and

(c) if so, what action the Government have taken in the matter?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) The Government have received a report from the State Marketing Officer, Madras, and the Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies) about the fall in prices of tapioca and tapioca products in Kozhikode and Salem markets."

" (b) Yes, Sir. The fall in prices was due to the fall in the off take of tapioca products in North Indian markets, as a result of the freezing of stocks of Salem sago globules by the Calcutta Corporation and to the difficulty with the railways over the concessional rates applicable to the tapioca globules.